

Standish-with-Langtree

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1903.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30134316>

STANDISH,

February, 1904.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Standish-with-Langtree
Urban District Council.*



GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present to you my Ninth Annual Report.

The continued improvement in the health of the people of the township as shown by the statistics embodied in the report, will, I am sure, be a source of gratification to you as they are a source of pride to me.

I thank you for your kind and ready assistance in all matters which I have thought it necessary to bring forward.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON, M.D.,

Fellow Royal Institute of Public Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1903.

Population 1891 Census ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,416
„ 1901 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,303
Increase in 10 years ..											...	<u>887</u>

Acreage of Township ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,264 acres.
Estimated Population, July, 1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,502
Showing density of population 1·99 per acre.											

BIRTHS—Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
Total...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>222</u>
DEATHS—Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
								<u>91</u>

Annual birth rate per 1,000 population, 34·14.
 „ death „ 1,000 „ 13·99.

Natural increase of population by excess of births over deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
Total deaths from Zymotic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Annual rate of Mortality from Zymotic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·99
Total deaths from Zymotic Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Annual rate of Mortality from Zymotic Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·61
Total deaths in infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Infantile death rate per 1,000 births	...	...	...	...	...	...	144·14

TABLE I.

	Estimated population at July 1st.					
1895	5,850
1896	5,900
1897	5,950
1898	6,000
1899	6,138
1900	6,245
1901	6,325
1902	6,413
1903	6,502

TABLE II.

BIRTH RATE FOR PAST 9 YEARS.

		No. of Births.		Rate per 1,000 of population.
1895	...	258	...	44.4
1896	...	209	...	35.4
1897	...	215	...	37.3
1898	...	227	...	37.83
1899	...	215	...	35.04
1900	...	208	...	33.3
1901	...	214	...	33.67
1902	...	264	...	41.16
1903	...	222	...	34.14

TABLE III.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE FOR PAST 9 YEARS.

							Death Rate per 1,000 population.
1895	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.05
1896	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.01
1897	..	...	...	...	...	...	2.05
1898	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.3
1899	...	...	...	..	...	...	3.58
1900	...	..	...	...	...	...	3.20
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.16
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.02
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.99

TABLE IV.

		Death Rate under 1 year per 1,000 births.		Death Rate under 5 years per 1,000 population		Death Rate over 65 years per 1,000 population.
1895	...	155.1	...	10.42	...	8.88
1896	...	172.24	...	8.47	...	8.64
1897	...	220.7	...	12.94	...	4.20
1898	...	149.7	...	7.66	...	2.16
1899	...	218.6	...	12.23	...	3.09
1900	...	182.7	...	8.97	...	2.72
1901	...	196.02	...	8.06	...	2.37
1902	...	136.74	...	9.82	...	1.55
1903	...	144.14	...	7.38	...	2.76

TABLE V.

DEATH RATE FOR PAST 9 YEARS.

			No. of Deaths.			Death Rate per 1,000 population.
1895...	...	...	120	...	...	20·6
1896...	...	...	103	...	...	17·11
1897...	...	...	144	...	...	24·20
1898...	...	...	92	...	...	15·3
1899...	...	..	142	...	..	23·13
1900...	...	...	121	...	...	19·36
1901...	...	...	108	...	...	17·07
1902...	...	...	112	...	...	17·46
1903...	...	...	91	...	...	13·99

TABLE VI.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING YEAR 1903.

				All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	Over 65
Measles	...	...	...	3	2	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	4	...	4	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Enteric	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	4	1	3	...	...	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	8	2	...	...	...	3	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	3	2	1	...	2	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases of Parturition	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	...	3	2
All other causes	...	...	...	40	19	...	1	2	7	11
Accidents	...	...	...	4	...	2	...	...	2	...
				91	32	16	2	2	21	18

TABLE VII.

Zymotic rate of 199 is made up as follows:—

				Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	4	0·61
Measles	...	...	...	3	0·47
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	0·15
Typhus	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric	...	...	...	1	0·15
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...
Zymotic Enteritis	...	...	...	4	0·61
				13	1·99

TABLE VIII.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

				Enteric	Diphtheria	Croup	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever	Measles	Total Notified	Deaths
January	...	...	...	4	...	1	1	22	...	...	...	28	...
February	...	...	...	3	1	...	2	13	...	...	...	19	...
March	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	7	...	...	...	11	1
April	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	3	...	...	6	11	1
May...	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	4	...	...	2	10	2
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	9	1
July	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	...	...	...	9	...
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	4	1
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	...
October	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	2	...	...	...	7	1
November	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	...	...	...	6	...
December	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	...	...	...	9	1
				12	4	3	15	86	...	...	8	128	8

ESTIMATED POPULATION.—This shows an increase of 89 over the previous year.

REGISTERED BIRTHS.—These show a decrease of 42 as compared with last year, but you may remember that the number of births (264) last year was the largest of which I could trace any record.

REGISTERED DEATHS.—The deaths registered number 91, being a decrease of 21 on the previous year. This total includes 2 of persons belonging to Wigan, 1 of whom was accidentally killed, whilst the other died from natural causes, both whilst working below ground. Had these 2 deaths occurred in public institutions within the district they would have been deducted, so that the deaths of the inhabitants proper would have been only 89, showing a decrease of 23. The death rate is 13·9 being a decrease of 3·5 per 1,000. You will observe by reference to table 5 that, with the exception of years 1897 and 1899, the death rate has steadily declined from 20·6 in 1895 to 13·9, at which it stands for the past year.

ZYMOTIC RATE.—The number of deaths from Zymotics (13) is small compared with 21 the previous year, and which gives a death rate of 1·99, the rate for 1902 being 2·02.

PHTHISIS.—I am very pleased to be able to inform you that no deaths occurred from this disease. In previous years it has been my duty to point out that we had more cases of this disease than was warranted by our geographical and topographical position. Other tubercular affections contributed only 2 deaths. Bronchitis, Pleurisy, and Pneumonia contributed 17 deaths, certainly a very moderate number.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.—32 infants under 1 year of age died during the year, being 4 less than the previous year, but the rate 144·14 is somewhat higher on account of the decrease in the number of births.

DEATHS OVER 65 YEARS.—These number 18 which is equal to a rate of 2·76 as compared with the rate of 1·55 for the previous year.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The greatest decrease is shown under this head, 128 cases only being notified, as compared with 390 for 1902. The greater number of notifications for the present year were of Scarlet Eever, namely 86. Notifications of this disease were received during each month of the year, but the greater number was received in January and February.

The great decrease is accounted for by the absence of an epidemic of measles, only 8 cases being notified, as compared with 224 for the previous year.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Only 12 cases occurred. I believe it will be the experience of most Urban District Townships to find a considerable decrease in the number of cases of Enteric Fever, and also of Zymotic Enteritis during the year 1902. This is attributable to the climatic conditions which prevailed throughout the Summer, viz., the excess of rain and the absence of heat.

It will be of interest to note the number of cases notified for the past 9 years.

There was as follows :

1895	...	22 cases.
1896	...	22 „
1897	...	25 „
1898	...	23 „
1899	...	24 „
1900	...	10 „
1901	...	6 „
1902	...	8 „
1903	...	12 „

DIPHTHERIA contributed 4 cases to the notifications but with no deaths, and Croup 3 cases likewise without a casualty.

ERYSIPELAS.—I have frequently had to remark on the number of cases of Erysipelas, 15 being contributed this year. This is due to the number of cuts and bruises received in the pits, most of which invariably get some form of dirt in, and develop Erysipelas as a result. Though some of the cases were of a very severe nature, happily no deaths were caused thereby.

CONTINUED FEVER.—No cases notified.

SMALLPOX.—Fortunately we have escaped a visitation of this loathsome disease.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—No cases notified.

INFANTILE DIARRHŒA.—The deaths from this infection only numbered one, which is a great decrease, whilst those from Enteritis in infants and young children only numbered 4.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES ACT.—We have only found it necessary to exercise our powers in one instance.

DRAINS, SEWERS, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—We have not had so much trouble with the old drains as in some previous years, and I believe much of the improvement, sanitarily, which we have effected, have been through the pains we took in years gone by in dealing with the old drains, which seemed to exist at nearly every part of the district. The sewage has been dealt with efficiently on the Council's Sewage Farm, which is quite sufficient for the demands made upon it.

CLEANSING AND SCAVENGING.—This is carried out partly by contract and partly by the Council, and in both cases is efficiently done, I do not think throughout the year I have had a complaint of an ashpit being too full, or of the refuse when empited.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—These are registered and inspected. In all cases they are found to harbour less than their registered number of Lodgers, and are well kept.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—These are registered and inspected, and are clean and well kept. No meat has been seized as unfit for human food.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—The regulations of the Local Government Board have been conformed to.

WATER SUPPLY.—The water supply is constant and of excellent quantity.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS' ACT.—We have not many of these in our district. Where sanitary defects were found, they have been remedied.

BAKEHOUSES.—Are inspected, all clean and well kept, and all above ground.

INQUESTS.—4 inquests were held in the district; 2 cases of accidental burning, 1 a case of accidental drowning the other case was due to an accident in the mine, the only fatal one which occurred in the mines. When we consider the number of men employed in the pits, the nature of the ground worked, it reflects great credit on the management.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.—11 illegitimate births were registered.

ANNUAL REPORT OF NUISANCE INSPECTOR.

FEBRUARY 16TH, 1904.

TO DR. WILSON, MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SIR,

I beg to lay before you my report for the year 1903.

NOTIFICATIONS. — 86 cases of Scarlet Fever, 12 of Enteric, 4 of Diphtheria, and 8 of Measles, were reported to me. All these were visited and disinfectants supplied to the tenants of the cases and were fumigated according to your orders.

NUISANCES.—48 nuisances have been reported and abated. 1 nuisance is in course of abatement.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.—None taken.

ASHPITS.—4 old ashpits have been reconstructed. All the old open ashpits and middens are now practically done away with and are rebuilt on the plan approved by the Council.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—Have been visited and inspected with satisfactory results. 1 workshop was ordered to be limewashed and this was done.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS in the district have been visited and (with the exception of 3 cowsheds reported as insanitary) are in a satisfactory state. There is a steady improvement being shown in the erection of cowsheds and dairies in the district.

BAKEHOUSES AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES have been visited and are kept in a good state.

LODGINGHOUSES have also been visited and these are kept in a clean state, and I do not find any overcrowding.

OMNIBUSES are licensed and are kept in a clean state.

THE SEWAGE DISPOSAL is carried out by the Farm and very good reports as to the effluent obtained have been received from the Ribble Joint Committee and the Council's Analyst.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

ED. SHEPHARD,
Nuisance Inspector.

